From: Governors' Wind Energy Coalition [larry@governorscoalition.org]

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Subject: Today's Wind & Solar Energy News

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September 28, 2017

Tax Plan raises questions for energy, doubts about renewables

George Cahlink, Geof Koss and Arianna Skibell, E&E News reporters • Posted 2017-09-28 06:42:44

Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), a senior Ways and Means Committee member who has long backed renewable credits, said he's optimistic there will be bipartisan support for maintaining at least some, specifically citing wind. He said there'll likely have to be tradeoffs to keep the breaks but said he intends to work with GOP committee members to find them. "I think we have some traction to keep some key things," he said, referring to the renewable credits. [read more ...]

Could California ban gasoline cars?

By David R. Baker, San Fransico Chronicle • Posted 2017-09-28 06:45:55

A full ban on fossil-fuel vehicles in California, which represents 12 percent of all auto sales nationwide, would jolt the industry. "We have been working with California on intelligent, market-based approaches to emissions reductions beyond 2025, and we hope that this doesn't signal an abandonment of that position," John Bozzella, president of the Association of Global Automakers trade group, said in an email Tuesday. "To reach our goals, we will need continued investment in new technologies, the infrastructure to support them, and, perhaps most importantly, consumers who will want to buy them." [read more ...]

Suddenly Southeast? Working To Unlock The Region's Wind Barriers

By North American Wind Power • Posted 2017-09-28 06:43:42

With 237 MW of installed capacity and another 583 MW under development, the Southeastern U.S. may be beginning to shed its image as a region plagued by low wind resources. Thanks in part to taller towers and longer blades, such technological advances have opened up areas in the region that were considered off limits, explains Katharine Kollins, president at the Southeastern Wind Coalition (SEWC). [read more ...]

Md. sues EPA over out-of-state emissions

Sean Reilly, E&E News reporter • Posted 2017-09-28 06:46:23

Maryland launched a lawsuit today aimed at forcing U.S. EPA to crack down on ozone-forming emissions from out-of-state power plants. Filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, the suit asks a judge to compel EPA to act on the state's petition from last November alleging that 19 power plants in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia must do a better job of limiting releases of nitrogen oxides that contribute to ozone formation. [read more ...]

Trump: The climate regulator?

Robin Bravender, Zack Colman and Niina Heikkinen, E&E News reporters • Posted 2017-09-28 06:46:46

President George W. Bush punted on the issue. President Obama's team tried but failed. President Trump might be the first chief executive to regulate power plants' greenhouse gas emissions. The Trump administration is expected to soon release its much-anticipated plans for tearing down the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan. That rule would have set nationwide limits for greenhouse gases from utilities — the largest U.S. source of heat-trapping gases. But it was halted by the Supreme Court last year — well before states would have been required to write plans to comply and years before actual reductions were mandated. Trump's election was its death knell. [read more ...]

Democratic state AGs vow to battle Trump admin rollbacks

Amanda Reilly, E&E News reporter • Posted 2017-09-28 06:47:09

Democratic attorneys general yesterday vowed to keep aggressively fighting the Trump administration's rollbacks of environmental regulations, as well as seek opportunities for cooperation with their colleagues in Republican states. Jan. 21 was a "galvanizing moment among state AGs," said New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman at an event meant to commemorate the formation of a new center to help state attorneys general litigate environmental issues in the Trump era. [read more ...]

Op-Ed: The benefits of Nebraska wind energy

By John S. McCollister, Omaha World Herald • Posted 2017-09-28 06:47:23

Nebraska's journey to harvest wind is just beginning, and it comes at a time when the state's agricultural sector is experiencing significant financial stress. Our wind resources will bring much needed relief to hard-working farmers and ranchers who drive our agricultural economy. In the next few years, I am certain that this homegrown resource will become a major economic force in Nebraska. [read more ...]

Op-Ed: Without action, Missouri likely to lose out on nextgeneration energy jobs

By Tom Kiernan, St, Louis-Post Dispatch • Posted 2017-09-28 06:48:05

From coast to coast, states are aggressively pursuing next-generation energy jobs that pay great wages, as well as creating affordable clean electricity. Wind energy jobs alone grew nine times faster than the overall economy last year. Unfortunately for Missourians, the

state's current policies put a large "closed for business" sign on the state's participation in this prosperity. [read more ...]

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